Exploitation and atrocities against the child labourers

347. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Labour Commission has conducted an inspection regarding exploitation and atrocities against the child labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the number of persons found guilty along with the action taken against them, State-wise;

(c) whether the children engaged in the agriculture farming sector, book publication sector, automobile industry are employed in more strenuous physical work in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to free and rehabilitate such children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) At present no Labour Commission exists.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in 16 hazardous occupations and 65 processes and regulates the working conditions of children working in non-hazardous occupations and processes. The hazardous occupations and processes include Agriculture processes where tractors, threshing and harvesting machines are used, automobile repairs and working in automobile workshops and garages. Government is implementing the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) in 250 districts of the country. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from hazardous work are put into Specials Schools, where these children are provided with accelerated bridging education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care facilities etc., before they are mainstreamed into regular education system.

Retrenchment of employees due to economic slowdown

348. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the economic slowdown, a large number of employees from different sectors are feared to be retrenched;

(b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise;

(c) whether Government has drawn up any road-map to avoid such a scenario;

(d) if so, the details thereof;